

2024 State Legislative Agenda

November 21, 2023



2023 Legislative Agenda Review

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1. Hotel Motel
2. City Council Term Limits
3. Public/Private Lease Agreements
4. Confiscated Weapons
5. Clarity to Taxpayer Bill of Rights
6. Expansion of Speed Cameras
7. Workforce Housing Initiatives
8. Clean Energy & Resilience Initiative
9. Rental Growth Protection
10. Property Tax Freeze for Low-Income Residents



Home Rule Protection



Legislative Climate and Opportunities

Anticipated Legislative Issues in 2024

- Tort Reform
- Municipal Option Sales Tax
- PTSD Insurance for First Responders
- Public Works Bidding
- Rental Registry
- Education

Study Committees

- Tax Credit Review Panel
- Expanding Georgia's Workforce
- Certificate of Need Modernization
- LOST Study Committee



2024 Specific Legislative Priorities

- Allow municipalities to **waive development impact fees** (DIF) for the construction of workforce and affordable housing to keep housing development costs low.
- Support **Tort Reform** to prevent frivolous lawsuits and lower the unlimited legal exposure of Georgia’s municipal taxpayers similar to the legal protection of Georgia’s Counties.
- Support amending local legislation (SB 640) to clarify language regarding the operation of **Community Improvement Districts** within Chatham County.
- Support the creation of a local **Homeless Court** to better adjudicate and connect individuals to resources and services.
- Amend the **definition of ‘blighted property’** to include vacant and abandoned parcels and unidentified heir property.
- Expand **State Enterprise Zones** to include not only depressed zones but also redevelopment areas and allow incentives to be awarded for the creation of affordable housing.
- Enable Savannah to establish an **Urban Residential Finance Authority**, like the City of Atlanta, to issue ‘Housing Opportunity Bonds’ which can fund a wide variety of housing activities to lower the development cost of housing.
- Allow local governments the ability to sell **unclaimed confiscated weapons** at auction or have them destroyed.



2024 Legislative Policy Positions:

- Support Georgia's position as a **Home Rule** State which allows local individuals to self-govern and determine which solutions best match the communities in which they live.
- Support Georgia's **full expansion of Medicaid benefits.**
- Support expansion of **Georgia's Low-Income Tax Credit Program.**
- Support Home Rule **regulation of short-term rentals** as necessary for quality of life, public safety, and a competitive lodging marketplace.
- Support **Sustainability initiatives** and policies that align with Savannah's 100% Clean Energy Resolution.
- Support tools that help protect low-income residents from **drastic increases in property taxes and rental rates.**



Legislative Agenda

Questions and Discussion

